

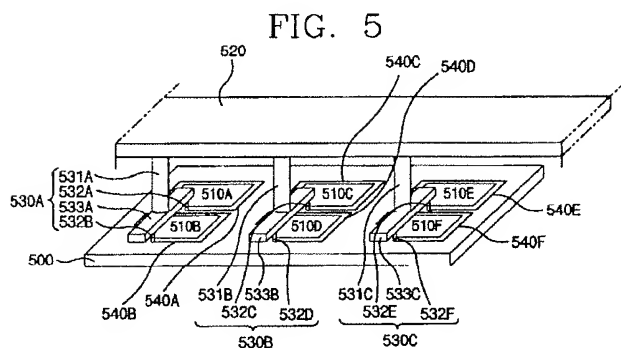
REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Final Office Action dated August 7, 2009 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Amendment, claim 18 is amended. Accordingly, claims 18-19 are currently examined, with claims 1-17 and 20-33 being withdrawn from consideration. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Applicants' Related Art (ARA) in view of Yamada et al. (JP 2002-258299). This rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 18 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 18 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "the arrangement direction of the N syringes at the support is substantially perpendicular to that of the nozzles at the one syringe." None of the cited references including Yamada et al., singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least these features of the claimed invention.



As shown in Fig. 5, a plurality of syringes 530A, 530B, 530C are installed to a support 520 and a plurality of nozzles 532A, 532B are installed at one syringe. At this time, the arrangement direction of the syringes installed at the support is substantially perpendicular to the arrangement direction of the nozzles installed to one syringe. However, in Yamada this arrangement direction of the syringes and the nozzles is not shown. Thus, the Yamada fails to teach or suggest at least "the arrangement direction of the N syringes at the support is substantially perpendicular to that of the nozzles at the one syringe."

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 18 and claim 19, which depends from claim 18, are allowable over the cited references.

Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Dated: November 24, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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